

In re Patent Application of:
CLARKE
Serial No. 10/777,936
Filing Date: February 12, 2004

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the careful examination of the present application. Independent Claims 1, 12, 17, 22, and 27 have been amended to include the subject matter of dependent Claims 6-7, 15-16, 20-21, 25-26, and 30-31, respectively. Dependent Claims 6-7, 15-16, 20-21, 25-26, and 30-31 have been canceled for consistency. In view of the amendments and arguments presented in detail below, it is submitted that all claims are patentable over the prior art.

I. The Amended Claims

Amended independent Claim 1 is directed to a communications system, which includes a plurality of data storage devices and mobile wireless communications devices which may use different operating protocols. The system further includes a protocol interface device which includes a protocol engine module for communicating with the data storage devices using respective operating protocols, and a front-end proxy module coupled to the protocol engine module. The front-end proxy module includes a respective proxy module for communicating with the mobile wireless communications device using each respective operating protocol, and one or more common core service modules. The protocol interface device also includes a configuration file module for storing a plurality of different sets of configuration files relating to different allocations of resources of the common core service module(s). The at least one common core service module allocates resources based upon a given service to

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be performed and a corresponding set of configuration files stored in the configuration file module.

The at least one common core service module comprises a plurality of handlers for interfacing the proxy module with the protocol engine module. The proxy module converts access requests from the plurality of mobile wireless communications devices to common access parameters. The front-end proxy module further comprises a flow controller module for receiving the common access parameters from the proxy module and selecting desired handlers for processing thereof.

Amended independent Claim 12 is directed to a protocol interface device related to amended independent Claim 1. Amended independent Claim 17 is similar to independent Claim 12 but recites a plurality of communications devices rather than a plurality of wireless communications devices. Amended independent Claim 22 is a method counterpart to amended independent Claim 1. Amended independent Claim 27 is directed to a computer-readable medium related to amended independent Claim 1.

II. The Claims Are Patentable

The Examiner rejected dependent Claims, 6-7, 15-16, 20-21, 25-26, and 30-31, the subject matter of which is now included in independent Claims 1, 12, 17, 22, and 27, respectively, over the combination of Poor et al. and Song et al. Poor et al. discloses an intermediate server or system having knowledge of application program protocols used by the application programs on a user's wireless device. The intermediate server receives information communicated from the device via a transport level

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protocol. This information is subsequently transmitted by the intermediate server, in accordance with the appropriate application program protocol, to a remote server or system that services the application or program in use by that person.

Song et al. discloses a browser session mobility (BSM) system that allows a user of a mobile wireless communications device to save and restore the runtime state of a web browser executed thereby. The BSM system includes a browser state repository (BSR) device module executed by the mobile wireless communications device. At the user's direction, the BSR device module records the runtime state of the web browser being executed by the mobile wireless communications device and sends it to a repository server having a BSR repository module. At the user's command, the BSR device module downloads the runtime state of the web browser and restores those runtime values to the web browser. (See paragraphs 42-51 of Song et al.)

Independent Claim 1, for example, has been amended to include the subject matter of dependent Claims 6-7, together with additional subject matter, and now recites the at least one common core service module comprising a plurality of handlers for interfacing the proxy module with the protocol engine module and the proxy module converting access requests from the plurality of mobile wireless communications devices to common access parameters. In addition, independent Claim 1 now further recites that the front-end proxy module further comprises a flow controller module for receiving the common access parameters from the proxy module and selecting desired handlers for processing thereof.

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It is respectfully submitted that the combination of Poor et al. and Song et al. fails to disclose the above noted features. Applicant first notes that the Examiner contended that the BSR repository module of Song et al. discloses the at least common core module of independent Claim 1, for example, yet somehow also cites the configuration blocks of the user configuration file and the intermediate system of Poor et al. as disclosing the at least one common core service module comprising a plurality of handlers for interfacing the proxy module with the protocol engine module and the proxy module converting access requests from the plurality of mobile wireless communications devices to common access parameters. It is respectfully submitted that this position is inconsistent and illogical.

The BSR repository module of Song et al. merely stores the runtime states of the web browser being executed by the mobile wireless communications device, acting as a database for those runtime states. The configuration blocks of the user configuration file of Poor et al. associate a list of user application programs with a corresponding mobile wireless communications device. The intermediate system of Poor et al. receives and parses a message, reformats the message according to a protocol for a user program specified in the user configuration file, and sends the reformatted message to the user program. One of skill in the art would simply not look to combine these features with the BSR repository module of Song et al., which stores the runtime states of a web browser and has nothing to whatsoever with the reformatting of messages according to a specified protocol.

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Moreover, the Examiner is reminded that he took the position that the flow controller module was disclosed by the intermediate system of Poor et al., yet that the plurality of different sets of configuration files was disclosed by the storage of browser runtime snapshots by the BSR module of Song et al. As stated above, one of skill in the art would not look to combine the intermediate system of Poor et al., which receives and parses a message, reformats the message according to a protocol for a user program specified in the user configuration file, and sends the reformatted message to the user program, with the storage of browser runtime snapshots by the BSR module of Song et al. The reformatting of messages according to a specified module has nothing whatsoever to do with the storage of browser runtime snapshots. Indeed, Poor et al. and Song et al. are incompatible and are directed to divergent technical fields.

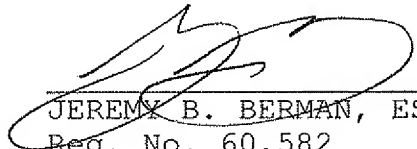
For at least the above reasons, amended independent Claim 1 is patentable over the combination of Poor et al. and Song et al. Independent Claims 12, 17, 22, and 27 have been similarly amended and are patentable for the same reasons. The dependent claims, which recite yet further distinguishing details, are also patentable and require no further discussion herein.

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III. CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and arguments provided herein, it is submitted that all the claims are patentable. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is requested in due course. Should any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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